Report

1963-1969

Scholarship and Exchange Program

LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

GOVERNING COMMITTEE

Chairman:	The Rev. Dr. Hans-Werner Gensichen - Federal Republic of Germany
Vice-Chairman:	The Rt. Rev. Josiah Kibira - Tanzania
Other Members:	Dr. Millard E. Gladfelter - U.S.A.
	The Rev. Gunnar Lislerud - Norway

STAFF SECRETARY

The Rev. Otto Immonen - Finland

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIFIED SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

At the time when reports on various activities of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) were submitted in preparation for the 1963 assembly there was no separate report on the Scholarship and Exchange Program. The activities in this field were included in the reports of various commissions, committees and departments. The developments since the Helsinki Assembly have led to the establishment of the unified scholarship and exchange program.

For a number of years scholarship programs were conducted by the Commissions and Departments of Theology and World Mission, whereas a Church Workers' Exchange Program was conducted by the Commission and Department of World Service. In order that these various programs be coordinated, the Helsinki Assembly recommended that the General Secretary or his Associate should serve as the administrator or coordinator of the Scholarship and Exchange Program of the LWF. In 1964 the Executive Committee at its meeting in Reykjavik decided to establish a Staff Working Committee on Scholarship and Exchange which was intended to strengthen the coordination of the existing programs carried on by several departments. This Working Committee was also to establish an office which would become a central point in behalf of the various departments. In the Staff Working Committee, which was to make decisions on the basis of the policy which had been established by the respective commissions, all of the LWF commissions were to be represented, and the Associate General Secretary was to be the chairman of the committee.

As these various scholarship and exchange programs were coordinated and as they grew, it was a natural development that they should be unified into one program. The General Secretary called a consultation for the spring of 1967 and this consultation provided the basis on which the plan and proposal for a unified program was worked out. This proposal was approved in principle by the Executive Committee in Waterloo in 1967 and in all details by the Officers of the LWF at their meeting in January 1968.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Scholarship and Exchange Program of the LWF is intended to strengthen the life and witness of the churches. Individual church members are offered opportunities for further training and study to better equip them for service in church and society. These opportunities are provided by a church of one country for that of another through a period of study, observation, research, service or other types of directed training. Through this program churches are encouraged and helped to plan for future leadership, together with other churches.

III. OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED THROUGH THE SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

A. Academic Study Programs

1. Theology

Scholarships in the field of theology have been granted primarily for study on the

graduate level. They have also been granted for undergraduate theological studies in case these studies were not available in the home country of the candidate.

Since 1963, 155 theologians were given scholarships for further study within the framework of the Scholarship and Exchange Program. They came from 24 different countries and undertook their studies in 16 countries. Many among these exchange theologians were persons who at the encouragement of their church wished to train to become theological teachers. Among them were theologians wishing to prepare for certain specialized tasks in the church. Some were engaged in special theological research. Within this category scholarships have been given to persons working for a degree in theology as well as to those who have been engaged in further non-degree theological studies.

2. Non-theological disciplines

The same statement which was given above in regard to the level of study in the field of theology applies also to indicate the general policy on non-theological disciplines. It should be noted that within the scholarship and exchange program this is the only category in which reference is made to geographical aspects. It is stated that in granting scholarships for non-theological academic studies priority will be given to candidates from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

From 1963 through 1969, 158 scholarships were granted for academic studies in non-theological disciplines. The recipients came from 20 countries and were received by 19 countries. The basic aim has been to provide trained personnel for the church and also for service in non-church related occupations.

B. Non-Academic Study Programs

This program, previously called Church Worker's Exchange Program, was until 1968 conducted by the Department of World Service. Since 1968 it has been one facit within the unified program. The objectives of this program are to provide opportunities for persons serving the church in various capacities -- clergy and laity -- to receive practical training and to participate in mutual sharing of experiences in churches of other countries. Opportunities are also provided for church members who, though not employed by the church, hold positions of significant service to society, to receive training in a directed program in their professional area.

Exchange assignments in this field are also made to internship programs in a church or church-related agency or institution, and in special circumstances also to a non-church-related program. The fourth way in which this program has sought to facilitate contacts between churches are the so-called service projects. These are for young persons wishing to offer themselves for a period of directed service in a church-related agency

or institution.

Since 1963, 229 exchangees participated in the program. They represented 23 different countries and assignments were made to 13 countries. The most frequent subjects in these seven years were congregational life, Christian education, and stewardship. In the last few years there has been a growing interest in the opportunities offered particularly in the United States in the field of clinical pastoral training. Exchange grants within the non-academic study programs were normally for a period of three months, except for internships and service projects which were for a period of one year.

C. Special Assignments for Skilled Personnel

Exchange grants in this field are intended to bring persons with specialized skills, training or experience from one country to another, for a specified assignment outlined by the inviting church. These assignments are not intended to fill staff vacancies in the host church or institution, and the assignment would not be such as would require normal work contract arrangements with the host church.

Since this is a new category within the Scholarship and Exchange Program and was only introduced at the time when the new unified program was established, it has not yet been utilized by the churches. So far only 2 grants have been given within this category.

IV. COOPERATION WITH CHURCHES AND NATIONAL COMMITTEES

It has been continuously emphasized that the Scholarship and Exchange Program is a very closely church-related activity. Scholarships and exchange opportunities are granted through the churches to their individual members, and scholarship students and exchangees are received and programs are arranged by the churches. In this connection, on behalf of all associated with this program during the past years, a word of gratitude and appreciation goes to the member churches and national committees for their cooperation. Their efforts have made this program possible. I would also like to mention that in addition to annual contributions made towards the LWF budget for the Scholarship and Exchange Program the churches receiving exchangees have also provided considerable amounts of financial support in covering expenses for the non-academic study programs and securing additional scholarships from universities, colleges and seminaries in which LWF scholarship students were studying.

One of the matters in which the cooperation of the churches and national committees is desperately needed is the screening of the candidates. For this purpose all churches or national committees have been encouraged to establish a local scholarship committee which screens and evaluates the applications before they are submitted to the LWF.

It is quite obvious that the inter-church relations of this program are of considerable

importance. The exchange aspect, the church-to-church relationship, is always represented in every exchange assignment. It is not necessarily an exchange in the strict sense of this word where it would mean a person-for-person exchange. Many churches have participated without having had visits in return.

The implementation of the Scholarship and Exchange Program in various countries requires a working relationship and close contact with many church-related and also non-church-related agencies and institutions. These contacts are normally not exercised between the agencies and the LWF Scholarship and Exchange Office directly, but by the member churches and national committees which are responsible for the placement of scholarship students and for planning the detailed program for the exchangees.

The membership of the LWF Secretary for the Scholarship and Exchange Program in the Scholarship Committee of the World Council of Churches is a visible manifestation of the valuable contact which exists between these two programs.

V. GOVERNING COMMITTEE AND STAFF

At its meeting in August 1968 the Executive Committee of the LWF passed the resolution that a Governing Committee be established to direct the activities of the Scholarship and Exchange Program. The following persons were appointed to be the members of the Governing Committee:

Professor Dr. Hans-Werner Gensichen, Germany; Chairman
The Rt. Rev. Bishop Josiah Kibira, Tanzania; Vice-Chairman
Dr. Millard E. Gladfelter, USA
The Rev. Gunnar Lislerud, Norway.

The function of the Governing Committee is to determine policy and procedures to be followed in the scholarship and exchange program, to take action on the scholarship applications, and to supervise the implementation of the scholarship and exchange program in accordance with the given "terms of reference". The establishment of the Governing Committee meant that the function of the Staff Working Committee as a constituted committee was terminated. However, the role of the LWF staff remained of vital importance in providing expert consultation and in assuring that the various geographical and functional concerns of the LWF are adequately considered in the implementation of this program.

From February 1965 to December 1966 Miss Kari Holm of Sweden was working as the Coordinating Secretary for the Scholarship and Exchange Programs of the Departments of Theology, World Mission and World Service. Her successor was Miss Helga Cierpinski of Germany who held this position until the formation of the unified program, and continued working for the unified program until June 1968. In April 1968 Pastor Otto Immonen of Finland was appointed to the position of Secretary for the unified scholarship and exchange program.

VI. SOME PRESENT CONCERNS AND TRENDS

In view of the fact that there are many church-related scholarship programs operated by mission boards, agencies, institutions etc., it has become important to have as much co-operation as possible between those and the LWF scholarship program. Cooperation is needed in order that more coordination of these programs could be developed, both in regard to the nomination of candidates by their home churches to these various programs, and also in regard to the implementation of the approved scholarship and exchange assignments in the countries of study. It is difficult to completely differentiate the areas of responsibilities between these various scholarship programs, but every effort should be made to coordinate these programs as much as possible.

The LWF scholarships are normally for study outside the home country. On the basis of this statement some churches have raised the question as to what extent does the LWF consider applications for studies in the home country of the candidate. The interpretation of this policy statement has been that while it has been possible to grant scholarships within the home country such scholarships should only be granted in exceptional cases. It has been emphasized that the Scholarship and Exchange Program of the LWF must be regarded as an international program. Consequently churches should be encouraged to establish their own scholarship funds to assist their students in studies in the home country.

According to the stated policy of the Scholarship and Exchange Program the grants for academic studies are made for one academic year but are renewable up to the number of years agreed upon at the time when the scholarship application was approved. The length of the scholarship period primarily depends on the purpose and goal of the study program and the degree, if any, to be completed. During the past years there has been a continuous trend toward scholarships for longer periods.

The LWF Scholarship and Exchange Program, as any other similar program, has had to face the problem concerning the families of the scholarship holders. What should be our policy with regard to requests for provision for married students to take their spouses, and possibly also children, with them to the country of study? It is quite obvious that if provision is made for families to go together to the foreign country it will considerably reduce the number of persons who can be given study and training opportunities abroad. On the other hand, it is necessary to keep in mind that in this kind of question the financial point of view is only one factor among many other factors which must be taken into account (sacrifices for the sake of further education, family ties, "cultural gap" between husband and wife, etc.).

The present LWF policy on this matter is that if the total study period abroad is one year or less there is no provision for the family of the scholarship holder. Students who have completed one year of study under the sponsorship of the LWF and who have been granted an

extension of their scholarship, may be given financial assistance which is intended as support for their spouses and children joining them. It should be noted that by having this provision the LWF program belongs to the most "human" church-related scholarship programs in regard to the policy on married students. Nevertheless, it is understandable that this question is not without problems.

Most of the LWF students have studied either in the United States or in Europe. The scholarship consultation which was held in connection with the meeting of the Commission on World Mission in Ethiopia in 1969 recommended that more emphasis be made by the LWF to encourage scholarship applicants to study also in Africa and Asia. In view of the fact that in the past years many universities have been founded in Africa and Asia this recommendation is really valid and deserves serious consideration.

As it has been indicated above grants within this program are available not only for those candidates who are in church vocations but also for those who are in non-church vocations. The question has been raised in regard to priority for awarding grants between candidates applying for church vocations and non-church vocations. The basic principle to be applied in such cases has been that the nominating church in presenting candidates to the LWF has been requested to indicate its priority, which priorities have been given serious consideration by the LWF.

When the unified program was announced to the churches, a certain "open-endedness" was emphasized. By that was meant that as we move forward and learn we may need to make changes or modifications, and as we sense new needs and opportunities in our churches, we will want to revise this program. This statement also points to the basic question in regard to the future development of the Scholarship and Exchange Program. While it is intended to strengthen the life and witness of the churches, we have to ask this question continuously: How does our program best meet the needs of the churches? On the basis of the information available from the scholarship recipients and their churches the conclusion can be gratefully made that this program has been, as a whole, an effective and valuable aspect of the total effort and responsibility of the Lutheran World Federation. It is our sincere prayer and hope that this program would continuously be of real blessing to the churches.

Otto Immonen
Staff Secretary

1. By Countries

Total Number of Scholarships 1963 - 1969
Department of World Mission (1963 - 1967) and Non-theological Disciplines

Study Country → / Home Country ↓	Belgium	Cameroun	England	Ethiopia	France	Germany	Holland	India	Indonesia	Kenya	Lebanon	Liberia	Nigeria	Norway	Singapore	Sweden	Switzerland	United States	Zambia	Total
Cameroun		2																		2
Congo	3																			3
Denmark																		1		1
Ethiopia			1	9		1												4		15
Finland																		1		1
Germany																	2			2
Hong Kong																		9		9
India			4					17						1				6		28
Indonesia							1	1	13									6		21
Kenya										2										2
Madagascar					7					1				1						9
Mexico																		1		1
Nepal								1												1
New Guinea																		1		1
Nigeria								3					2							5
Norway																1				1
Rhodesia																		3		3
South Africa																		7		7
Taiwan																		1		1
Tanzania			11			3				1	2	2			2			22	2	45
Total	3	2	16	9	7	4	1	22	13	4	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	62	2	158

Total Number of Scholarships 1963 - 1969

Department of World Mission (1963 - 1967) and Non-theolgocial Disciplines

2. By Subjects Studied	Total
Education	23
Theology	44
International Relations	1
Microbiology	1
Optometry	5
Economics	4
Linguistics	3
Accountancy	3
Medical Laboratory Technology	3
Agriculture	3
Pre-Theology/English Arts	3
Geography	9
Chemistry	5
Church Music	4
Hospital Administration	2
Social Work	1
Editorship	1
Literature Work	5
Bible School	3
Administration	3
Electrical Engineering	2
Psychology	5
Physics	3
Political Science	2
Mass Media	3
Church Administration	1
Printing Technology	1
Music	1
Sociology	1
Medicine	2
Clinical Training	2
Library Science	1
History	5
Journalism	3
	158

Total Number of Exchangees 1963 - 1969

Non-Academic Study Programs (Church Workers' Exchange Program)

1. By Continents

From	Studied in					
	Africa	Asia	Europe	North America	South America	Total
Africa	2	1	6	16	-	25
Asia	1	-	2	2	-	5
Australia	-	-	1	-	-	1
Europe	2	1	23	101	3	130
North America	-	-	64	-	-	64
South America	-	-	-	4	-	4
Total	5	2	96	123	3	229

Total Number of Exchangees 1963 - 1969
Non-Academic Study Programs (Church Workers' Exchange Program)

2. By Subjects Studied	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	Total
Christian Education	4	5	2	1	2	3	4	21
Mass Media	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Minority Churches	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Public Relations	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
Stewardship	1	3	3	2	2	2	4	17
Military Chaplaincy	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Urban Work	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	4
Work for Deaf and Dumb	1	1	-	1	1	2	1	7
Liturgy of religious communities	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Apologetic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mission Work	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Evangelism	-	5	1	1	-	-	1	8
Theological Training	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	5
Women's Work	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	3
Church-State Relation	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Seamen's Mission	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pastoral Work	1	-	-	2	1	1	2	7
Student Work	1	-	2	1	3	-	-	7
Criminal Youth Work	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Lay Academies	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Congregational Life	5	6	5	3	3	1	2	25
Internships	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	7
Journalism	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Animism	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Youth Work	3	4	5	4	-	2	4	22
Rehabilitation Work	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sociology of Religion	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Inner Mission/Social Work	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	23
Church Music	2	1	-	3	-	2	1	9
Clinical Training	-	1	2	-	2	-	2	7
Building and Repairing Music Instruments	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Bible School, Bible Study	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	4
Church Administration	2	1	-	2	1	-	3	9
Alcoholism	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Family Counselling	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Service Assignments	4	6	4	1	2	2	-	19
Assignments for Skilled Personnel	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Total	32	42	33	29	26	29	38	229

Total Number of Theology Scholarships 1963 - 1969

Study Country → / Home Country ↓	Argentina	Austria	Canada	England	Finland	France	Germany	Holland	India	Italy	Lebanon	South Africa	Sweden	Switzerland	Tanzania	United States	Total
Argentina						1										1	2
Australia							3									2	5
Brazil																1	1
Canada				2													2
Chile							2										2
Czechoslovakia				1													1
D D R		1															1
Ethiopia							1									5	6
Finland				1			5									3	9
France																1	1
Germany	2		1	1		1			1	1		2	4		3	24	40
Iceland				1									4				5
Indonesia											1					1	2
Japan																1	1
Madagascar						7											7
Mexico																1	1
New Guinea							1										1
Norway					1								1			2	4
South Africa							2					1				1	4
Southwest Africa																1	1
Sweden																2	2
Tanzania																4	4
United States				7			40	3						1			51
Venezuela													2				2
Total	2	1	1	13	1	9	54	3	1	1	1	3	11	1	3	50	155